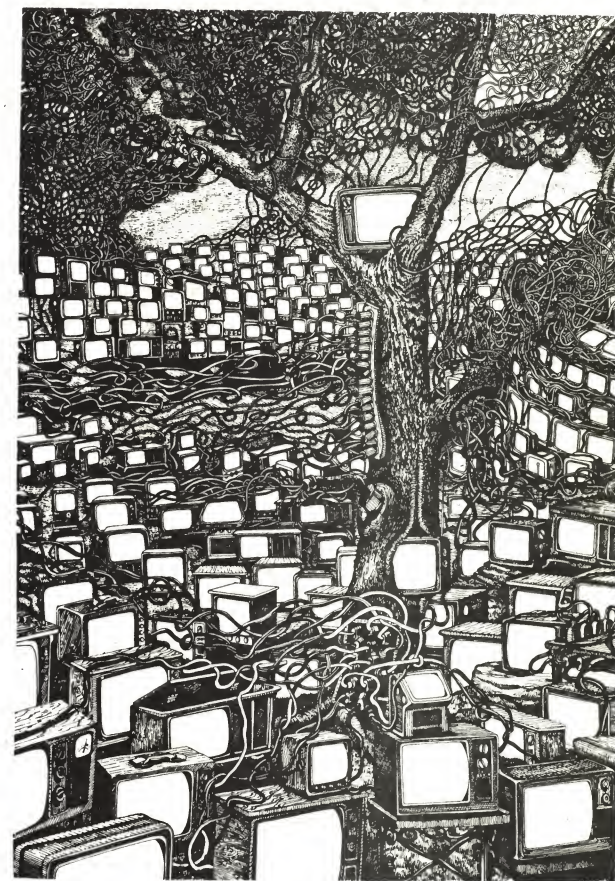


PEOPLES' NEWS SERVICE

197 KINGS CROSS ROAD
LONDON WC1
TEL 01-837-0182

MEMBER OF THE ALTERNATIVE PRESS SYNDICATE
ISSUE 100



SPECIAL GRAPHICS ISSUE

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DECEMBER 22 1975, Issue 100

In this special anniversary centenary issue, we have added a ten page documents and graphics section that has been printed on an offset litho machine by Women in Print, at Union Place, London SW9.

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PNS is registered with the GPO as a newspaper. PNS is published fortnightly and all copy should reach the office by the Wednesday before production. The deadline for the next issue which in fact will be in three weeks time due to the Xmas break is Wednesday January 7, stop press by January 9.

Subscriptions for left groups and individuals cost £1 50 for ten issues for Britain and Ireland and £2 for Europe. 50 issue subs are £7 50 and £10 respectively. Subscriptions for institutions, businesses and overseas out of Europe - rates on application.

PNS STATEMENT

PNS is now run collectively by about ten people. It is financed entirely by subscriptions and donations. We are trying to provide an alternative source of news to the capitalist and sectarian left media. We would like to have news of struggles and events from everybody who reads the bulletin. All decisions are made at our weekly meetings. Because of the Xmas break, our next meeting is on January 5 1976 at 6 pm at 197 Kings Cross Road, London WC1, and we welcome new helpers. After that week our meetings will be on Thursdays at the same time and place. We have stretched our finances to produce a bumper issue to celebrate our 100th anniversary so what we'd like for Xmas and the New Year is: A typewriter with a small type face (big faces need not apply!); any duplicating paper you might have lying around; Roneo stencils; any donations; and especially your opinions of PNS, your solidarity and your spare time, if any.

The cost for a normal fortnightly 400 copy issue is £48 which breaks down something like: Paper, £16; Stencils, £1; Ink, £1; Stamps, £16; Rent, £8; Sundries (Light, heat, 'phone stationery etc) £4, Envelopes £2. Total £48;

Our revenue for a fortnight is approximately £30 from subscriptions and £5 from bookshop and other casual sales. Total £35. Therefore: £48 - £35 = £13 deficit

Our loss of approximately £13 is made up by donations, which are vital for the continued existence of PNS. Our thanks to a Paris subscriber who has sent £70 over the last 3 months

Below is an article taken from Street Life magazine on the developments at Copeland District Council Community Development Project, which is threatened with closure by the Cumbria County Council. The information was originally received from the CDP central information office in London, a PNS correspondent who works there states that the Street Life article "says it all"

THE MUGGING OF CLEATOR MOOR

Times are bad. There are a lot of vandals about. A report on them came out a fortnight ago. "Vandal Plague a National Disgrace" said the Daily Mail. The publicity sprang from a Home Office working party report headed by Hampshire Chief Constable Sir Douglas Osmond. It suggested wide penalties.

Another act of vandalism occurred a fortnight ago. It was the axing of the Cleator Moor Community Development Project. Unless you live around there you've probably never heard of it. It didn't go completely unrecorded. 140 people went to the Cumbria County Council meeting to observe the three hour debate on the issue. The meeting ended with the majority voting to block funds for the project. The 140 protested.

Tory Alliance councillor, Bob Heatherington had brought his home movie outfit with him. He started filming the 140. Amid uproar he was forced to stop. But, he told the chairperson, he didn't want to destroy the film because the film of his 'holidays' were on it. The chairperson suggested that he develop the film and gave back the offending section. "No you bloody won't" shouted an opposing councillor. The film was destroyed...

Cleator Moor CDP was one of 12 'neighbourhood experiments' set up by the Home Office from 1969. The poor, like vandals, are always with the Home Office, and they like to feel they're doing something about it. In 1969 there was more money about for good works and there was another reason. In 1968 Enoch Powell had made his famous 'Rivers of Blood' speech about the collapse of British civilisation. So the CDPs were a chance to show that the Home Office were doing something about city life. They fell into an old pattern of governmental activity. If you have a problem send 12 or so men and women off to a room in Whitehall, and let them spend three years writing a report - as with Sir Douglas and his vandals. When the report appears a few days of press publicity gives an impression of activity then everyone forgets about it.

But the CDPs were slightly different. They involved research units plus community workers scattered around the country in areas of 'high rural deprivation'. A small plug had been switched into reality. The CDPs were established in areas like Newham in East London, Tyneside, Oldham and Paisley.

'We started out as radical social workers,' explained John Bellingham, who worked with Coventry CDP. 'We believed it was a question of better co-ordination, more social work, rational social planning. Area by area the attitudes changed. The CDPs claim, with considerable supporting evidence, that the causes of deprivation have nothing to do with the characteristics of the deprived people who live in those areas. They are not, in other words the 'feckless scroungers' so beloved of the Thatcherite Tories, nor has it anything to do with the inability of local authorities to deliver the social services properly.'

What CDP workers now argue, after five years is that the problem is to do with the structure of this society. That deprivation springs from poverty, and the distribution of wealth. Practically this meant that CDPs have moved away from what one worker called 'making sure that Mrs S has fed her kids'. They've moved towards working with community

groups, 'tenants groups, helping people organise at the grass roots against rotten conditions.

This hasn't always made them popular with the local authorities, who provide 25 per cent of their money or with the Home Office who provide the other 75 per cent. What was meant to be a furry pet to improve the authorities' images has made nips against its keepers. The Home Office recently sent out a circular which pointed out that the authorities didn't have to keep on the CDPs. They could fold them.

Labour controlled Newham had already made one attempt to do so - which was thwarted by the Labour council as a whole. In Bartley the labour authority is axing the project. In Cleator Moor, controlled by the Tory Cumbria County Council the axe has fallen...

The CDPs survival now, in a period of austerity - when they are most needed - is problematic. Their successes, and their failures, give the lie to the crap which comes from the Sir Douglas Osmonds of the world.

Instead of decay, and poverty, and boredom he sees a neat little word 'vandal' and a neat little solution. Interesting new punishments.

It looks good on page four of The Sun, and leaves the cities to rot, the cuts to continue, and the 'Vandals' banging away...

CRISTOBAL MIRANDA (SHOVELLER AT TOPILLA)

I met you on the broad barges
in the bay, Christobal, while the sodium nitrate
was coming down wrapped in a burning
December day, to the sea.
I remember the estatic nimbleness,
the hills of metal, the motionless water.
And only the bargemen, soaked
with sweat, moving snow.
Snow of the nitrates, poured
over painful shoulders, dropping
into the blind stomachs of the ships.
Shovellers there, heroes of a sunrise
eaten away by the acids, and bound
to the destinies of death, and standing firm,
taking in the floods of nitrate.
Christobal, this memento is for you,
for the others shovelling with you,
whose chests are penetrated by the acids
and the lethal gases,
making the heart swell up
like crushed eagles, until the man drops,
rolls toward the streets of town,
toward the broken crosses out in the field,
Enough of that, Christobal, today
this bit of paper remembers you, each of you,
the bargemen of the bay, the man
turned black in the boats, my eyes
are moving with yours in this daily work
and my soul is a shovel which lifts
loading and unloading blood and snow
next to you, creatures of the desert.

Pablo Neruda.

Who knows what we can expect?

A few years ago, then presidential-adviser Daniel Moynihan recommended that the Nixon Administration adopt a policy of "benign neglect" toward blacks as a means of solving racial problems in America. A cynical cartoon of the time showed an Indian standing behind barbed wire talking with the black, and the caption read, "Believe me, there's no neglect like benign neglect".

Perhaps today, however, many Indians would prefer neglect which was truly benign to the usually directionless and sometimes malevolent policies employed by the (US) Federal Government.

In fact, the caravan on the Trail of Broken Treaties, a group of activists who occupied the Washington headquarters of the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) during election week in 1972, seemed to freeze federal officials into a posture of deliberate neglect of Indian problems. Since then, the tendency has been to simply ignore the pressing prob-

lems of the Indians, while pretending that the voices of discontent are raising questions merely for the sake of disruption.

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Creation strengthens
our bodies

Sisters Brothers
we stand

The Eagle watches over us

The Pipe binds our blood

The Tree of Peace
protects our nation

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Credit to Peace News
for above story

WE MUST ALL SEE OURSELVES AS PART OF THIS EARTH. NOT AS AN ENEMY
FROM THE OUTSIDE WHO TRIES TO IMPOSE THEIR WILL ON IT - lame deer

THE
KINDLY
GAOLER



Francois Martzloff is a young psychiatrist who was an intern at La Santé in Paris. From 1969 to 1974 he collected prescription forms for drugs for prisoners on remand. These were used by him 'in a thesis attacking the insidious psychiatrisation of prisons.'

According to Martzloff, a decrease in physical brutality in prisons is matched by growth in 'chemico-therapeutic' brutality. His statistics paint an alarming picture of what has happened in this prison: between 1969 and 1973, doses of hypnotic drugs rose from 17,295 per 1,000 inmates to 32,872, anti-depressants from 784 to 14,036, and sedatives from 32,872 to 90,000.

About 50 per cent of prisoners in France are on remand. The endless waiting brings mental anguish. What could be more natural than to crave oblivion to blot out this unbearable interlude? Overstrung nerves lead to suicide attempts and bouts of aggression. Prison officers ask for drugs to help to induce acquiescence. Doctors find it hard to resist this pressure. Yet, asks Martzloff, is it right to damp down the aggression? Is a 'sane and healthy' reaction to the abnormal situation of remand? In his view, 'the global consumption of drugs has reached a level at which the behaviour of the entire body of prisoners has been modified.'

Dr. Martzloff does not deny the need for psychiatric treatment in prisons. He deplores the inordinate use of 'all-purpose psychotropic drugs' and an undesirable trend toward the labelling of all deviants as 'mentally inadequate'. For Martzloff it is prison itself that is pathogenic.

"The psychiatrisation of prisons responded so well to social imperatives that sooner or later it was inevitable." Who is to blame? The community, which shrugs off responsibility for its deviants. The prison authorities, who use psychopharmacology as an expedient. Above all, the doctor, who, by relinquishing his freedom of action connives at the system and becomes the "kindly gaoler".

This article was taken from Le Monde, and appears in the latest issue of the RAP newsletter.



TALKING TO ROSE DAVIS

The first time we went up to Leeds I didn't know what to expect. I thought Oh there'll be a lynching party. Yorkshire and all that, they go mad over cricket. But, as I said, they were marvellous "

What about locally around the estate, have you had much support?

"No, not really. As far as neighbours go I've got nice neighbours, but they like to keep themselves to themselves. I think this is it. And then I've met a lot of people through the campaign. I've had a lot of letters of support--over fifty, and Shirley's had quite a lot. I had one from an old age pensioner up north saying that this had happened to him 50 years ago. He was put in Pentonville and when he came out he was given 7/6 and he went and joined the army. He said 'I've got hundreds of supporters up here if you wish for us to come down'."

Have you had any support from the unions?

"Not really. We leafleted the meat market and the docks. We fixed a date for a meeting with the dockers but nobody showed up. Me and Peter went to docks four or five times, plus we leafleted the gates at four o'clock every morning, so they couldn't say they'd never heard of it. No, we haven't had any support from them, not so far. After all, they're your own people, aren't they? Then a school teacher handed me these poems his kids had done about George Davis's innocence, and at another school they were doing points of law from the case in class. And then people come back from holidays and tell me there's 'George Davis is innocent' all over Austria, in France and Spain. Someone said it was painted up in Madison Avenue in New York!! I had someone ring me and say they'd heard of a man in court saying when he was convicted 'I'm a guilty man, but George Davis is innocent.'"

What was your day to day life like before. How has it changed?

"Well it was just ordinary--a housewife. I've got two kids: a girl 17 and a boy 10. I'm in a better position than Shirley, she's got three babies under 6. It's been pretty rough on her."

Have you tried to work out ways of mind-ing the kids.

"Oh we do. You can imagine how I feel, I feel very responsible for them. After all, her husband's done this for George. So we share. Funds are very tight, so whatever we've got we share. There's Colin's wife as well, she's got two babies and she's pregnant, so I try and get over to her and Shirley's as much as I can."

How are you managing financially?

"I get £18.31 a week National Assistance--£9 a week for rent so we have to live on £9. But all the family put in so much a week to buy groceries which are shared between me, Shirley. We all share. I'm fortunate as far as that's concerned, they've been very good. But they've got families of their own to keep, so you can't expect them to keep giving."



Have you managed to stay cheerful?

"Well, people say 'How can you live but life's still got to go on. It's easy to sit down and go into a shell. It's easy going yourself, knowing that you've got something--I suppose I have lost a bit of weight, and the kids have suffered--but I've not been in quite as much--not only lost George, but I'm not well, that's the only thing I feel a bit guilty about.'"

But they've got involved too, have they?

"Yes--my daughter, she's a very sort of kid, but even she sat in the which is amazing. The boy's like she's like her dad, very quiet. But she says 'I want to come with you' and in everything. At first she was a bit embarrassed but I said 'Don't worry, Daddy never did it' and that's the sad thing is, though, that you do all these things to get somewhere, whereas if you've got plenty of money, just pay over the money and it's done for you'."

"No, not really. Well, I had a person come up and say 'Is it, well, you know, it's not really, but it is now anything that's a group becomes a group. And I had this letter the other day a photo of me at Leeds, screaming police 'Dear Mrs Davis, this is the nastiest picture I have seen of you and someone. What a thoroughly nasty person you must be, married to an equal man. Bad luck to you.' When I thought we've sat in courts for months and just so quiet, never opened our mouths, I was raging when I read that. To put someone else in my position, what they'd do. That's what I say, who are nasty... 'In my position, you do'."

If George gets out, will you keep your interest in these things?

"People have asked if, please God, comes home, will it end there, but because I hope I will help someone."

been in my position. I'd go all out as much as I could. Like Peter, he's fighting for when his kids are this could happen to them. Which is right. If things are like what they are, are they going to be like in ten years?

If you want to know how you can help campaign contact:

George Davis Campaign,
c/o Up Against the Law
66 York Way
N1
Tel: 837-4194

or
George Davis is Innocent Campaign
Tel: 980-0468

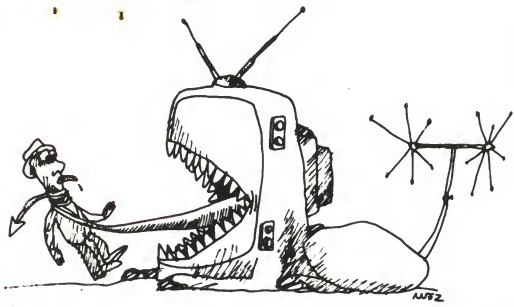
CHRISTMAS SPECIAL

ROSE DAVIS WILL SPEND
THE THREE DAYS OF CHRISTMAS
ON THE PAVEMENT OUTSIDE NEW
SCOTLAND YARD.

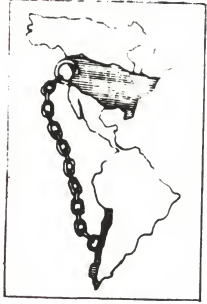
PLEASE SHOW YOUR SUPPORT.....

(for further information phone)

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credit
granma/LNS

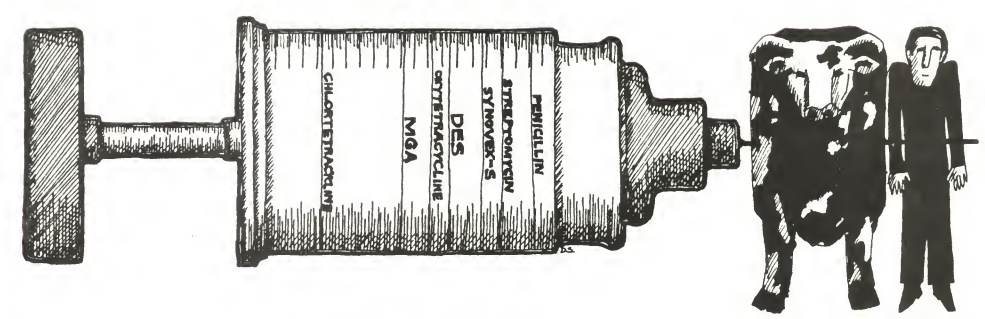
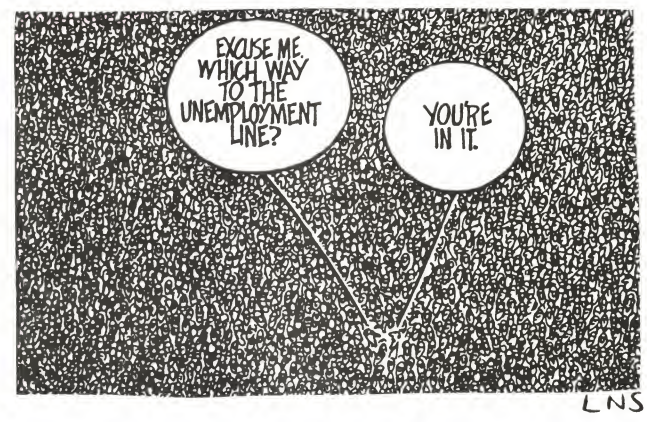


credit Womens Press/LNS



credit CPF/LNS

GENERAL WITH THE SHIT
KICKED OUT OF HIM





credit Alternate NS



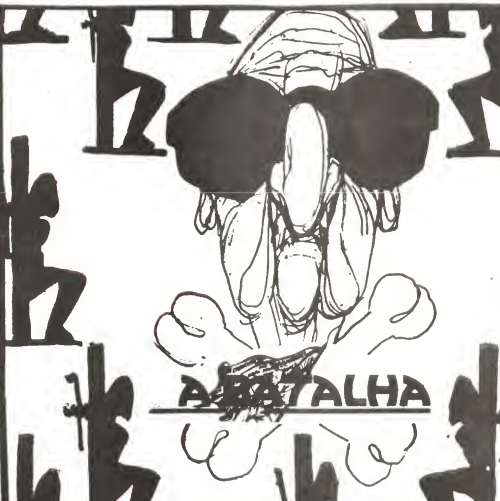
WE REMEMBER

credit
AKWESASNE
NOTES



1890 - 1973

WOUNDED KNEE



VIVA LA MUERTE!

IN MEMORIAM

- Francisco Sabate. Died January 5, 1960, of wounds received in a gun battle with falangist militia.
- Julian Grimau. Anarchist militant. Garotted 1963. Death warrant signed by General Franco.
- Salvador Puig Antich. Anarchist militant. Garotted March 2, 1975. Clemency refused by General Franco.
- Ramon Garcia Sanz, Jose Luis Sanchez-Bravo, and Jose Baena Alonso. FRAP (Patriotic Anti-Fascist Revolutionary Front) members executed by firing squad under orders from General Franco, September 27, 1975.
- Juan Paredes Manot and Angel Oteagui. ETA (Basque Homeland and Liberty) militants executed by firing squad, September 27, 1975. Death sentences confirmed by General Franco. (Owing to widespread popular feeling, in and out of Spain, "as a concession", the garotte was not used on this occasion.)
- In Memoriam also of countless, nameless others, death because of Francisco Franco de Bahamonde, deported by God, November 20, 1975.

J. H.

GEORGE DAVIS THE FIGHT CONTINUES

London(PNS Correspondent) - Following the Court of Appeal's refusal to grant George Davis leave to appeal(Dec.11) against his conviction for armed robbery, members of the Justice for Davis campaign issued an immediate warning that they intended to escalate the fight to prove his innocence. Only 'personal violence' has been ruled out - otherwise, says the campaign statement, ' everything goes'.

Davis' supporters accused the Appeal Court, headed by Lord Chief Justice Widgery, of whitewashing the conduct of the original trial judge, Mr. Justice Sebag Shaw; of playing with legal technicalities and showing an utter contempt for truth and justice by refusing to allow new evidence to be heard from three mini-cab drivers who worked with George Davis at the time of the robbery. While various grounds of appeal rested on the perjured evidence of police officers in the investigation leading to Davis's conviction, the fact that these police were themselves the subject of an investigation by the A10 squad(a branch of the police which looks into the police handling of cases) wasn't referred to throughout the appeal court hearings.

In his 'judgement' against Davis, Widgery introduced a number of quite spurious arguments. PNS in this report concentrates on those matters to do with the mini-cab office log book and the new evidence that was available from the cab drivers. At the appeal, there were five other grounds for appeal, mainly technical, that were rejected. According to Widgery the 'job book' was rather a casual document and not an 'a count book'. He attacked its validity on the grounds that at the end of the day the cab office could have functioned without it. This book, Widgery went on to say, is merely a book that Terry Calvey, the cab office owner looked at when he wanted to know where his various drivers were. The innuendo permeating this example of Widgery whitewash was to the effect that the log book was of far less substance than it really was.

On the face of it the log book was of considerable substance. In recent criminal trials the Crown has often scored heavily by producing evidential items of far less substance, often amounting to no more than a few scribbled words on scraps of paper. The three police officers who perjured themselves regarding the log book said that in the first two instances when they say it they couldn't be more precise about the entries for the day of the robbery because they took no notes. All they could remember was that the entries for the morning of the robbery had never changed while the overall shape, cover colour and design of the log book that was 'exhibit 30' in the trial did change.

As an example of police evidence, Det. Cons. John McBride and Det. Sgt. Gerard Jackson, both of the Yard's 'Robbery Squad' were discovered to have offered in evidence a completely perjured account of a conversation with Michael Ishmael (one of Davis's acquitted co-defendants) at Walthamstow police station. In this fabricated conversation Ishmael was supposed to have pleaded with Messrs McBride and Jackson to let him off the LEB job if, in return, he pleaded guilty to a second robbery. Unfortunately for McBride and Jackson, Walthamstow police station books, the officers' diaries, notebooks and the Scotland Yard's Robbery Squad 'duty books' showed that Ishmael had in fact been en route to another police station at the time of the alleged conversation.

The log book in Davis's trial was said by the police to have been a forged document. It was said to have been switched with an original log book sometime after the police had seen it and taken the original into their own possession on at least two occasions. Though the police agreed that the entries for the day of the robbery were never changed, between May 2 and May 16 for some inexplicable reason, they say a switch took place. Why George Davis should have switched the book so late in the day for one on which his daughter had 'this is Deana Davis's book' on the cover, nobody knows. All Mr. Richardson for the Crown offered was, 'there was something in that original log book that Davis didn't want the jury to see, but the Crown has never been in a position to suggest what it was.' Another strange feature is that the police only questioned two of the numerous cab-office staff (Terry Calvey and George Davis) about the fabricated log-book although it would have required at least 20 persons to compile the necessary entries.

/Continued.....When Davis's counsel John Marriage QC was examining the owner of the cab office as to whether the log book 'exhibit 30' was the original or a total forgery, original trial judge Sebag Shaw interrupted and suggested that Marriage discontinue that line of investigation and that the jury ought perhaps to consider whether just an entry or two on the morning of the robbery were fabricated - if not changed then written in spaces left blank. Yet entries couldn't have been erased because the whole book was checked out by forensic scientists.

As the Court of Appeal sat, Davis's co-defendants and crucial alibi witnesses were taking lie-detector tests at a Worcester Hospital. The results were published in the Sunday Times of December 14 and showed, according to Alan Smith (the leading British specialist in the use of lie-detector equipment) 'a remarkable consistency' of truthfulness. Davis has always said he is willing to take a lie detector test but the authorities have always denied him the opportunity. Those who took the tests agreed with the Sunday Times that the results could be published no matter which way they pointed, without thus ruling out libel proceedings.

The Davis campaign is now collating information on those police officers who brought Davis and his co-defendants to trial and this information will be disseminated at a series of protests, meetings and marches. For a start, Rosie Davis will be conducting a personal vigil outside New Scotland Yard over the three-day Christmas period and invites anyone and everyone to join her when they can spare the time. It starts at 9 a.m. on Christmas Eve at New Scotland Yard, The Broadway, London SW1 to put across the message that 'George Davis is Innocent O.K.' (also see documents section for Rosie Davis interview).

UP AGAINST THE LAW 66 York Way London N.1. 01-837-4194

BWNIC 14 ACQUITTED AT A COST OF £1m.

London (PNS Correspondent) - The trial of the 14 supporters of the British Withdrawal from Northern Ireland Campaign ended at the Old Bailey on Dec. 10 with the mass acquittal on all the 31 charges. The charges were 1. Conspiracy to contravene the Incitement to Disaffection Act (all 14) 2. Possessing seductive documents contrary to the Incitement to Disaffection Act (12 charged) 3. Attempt to seduce a sailor from his duty contrary to the Act (Bill Hetherington), Gwyn Williams and John Hyatt were also charged with helping deserters contrary to the Army Act 1955, to which they pleaded guilty and were fined £100 and £50 respectively.

After a trial lasting 10½ weeks and estimated to have cost £1m, the jury took only an hour and a half to reach their verdict. Many of them said afterwards they had decided quite early on in the trial that they would not be able to convict the 14 although some only decided on the last day of the judge's summing-up. The summing-up was, according to many of the lawyers, the most confused and biased that they had heard. The judge broke his word concerning the court of appeal's judgement on Pat Arrowsmith which he had said he would not bring up. This would probably have been enough to give the defendants an opportunity for a retrial.

The verdict came in just before lunch and the jury were officially dismissed but they all decided to come back after lunch to keep an eye on Judge McKinnon while he sentenced Gwyn and John. For a few minutes, the people took over the court and in the cheering, waving and huzzing that followed, the distinctions which had been preserved so rigidly for nearly 11 weeks by the court, broke down between defendants, friends in the gallery, lawyers, the press and the jury. It remains to be seen how this victory will affect other people on charges concerned with the leaflet 'Some Information for Discontented Soldiers'. But a pointer is the news that charges have been dropped against the Aberdeen 4 who were due to appear at Abroath Sheriff's Court on January 16. It seems unlikely that Andrew Lloyd (See PNS 9/1) will in fact have a retrial in Preston while the Platts Field 6 are due to come up for committal at Manchester on January 6 charged with possession of the leaflet and breach of the peace. Ronnie Lee, one of the 14, is already serving a three-year sentence for his activities with the Band of Mercy, an anti-vivisection direct action group, and returned to the Verne prison in Portland, Dorset. His number is 184051 for those who want to write to him. The BWNIC campaign continues with the redrafting of a new troops leaflet and can be contacted c/o 5 Caledonian Road, London N.1.

ISLINGTON SQUATTERS TAKEN TO COURT

London (PNS Correspondent)—On Monday 15 December, Islington Council applied for possession on 15 houses in the Station Ward area of Finsbury Park and 9 houses in other parts of Islington.

A council spokesperson said that work would start on the houses in February and the 200 squatters, including families with children, would be evicted shortly beforehand. The council applied for costs of £10 per household, but this was reduced to £7 by the magistrate and costs were granted ^{against} most of the squatters.

One house in Hornsey Rise Gardens had subpoenaed Margaret Watson, chairperson of Islington Housing Committee and their local councillor. Alex Kirby, but they failed to appear in Court so the case had to be adjourned and another dismissed due to lack of evidence, the remainder were won by the Council.

About forty demonstrators gathered outside Clerkenwell Magistrates Court where the cases were heard, singing songs, handing out newsheets and selling posters in solidarity with the Islington squatters.

The Station Ward Housing Action Group (SWAG), which was formed in October 1974 to fight the council's policy of blocking roads in preparation for demolition work, campaigned in the first months of 1975 with the backing of North Islington Housing Rights Project, Poles Park Neighbourhood Association and the Holloway Tenants Co-op for the following demands:-

- 1) End demolition and gutting and start rehabilitation programmes
- 2) Start repairs on occupied houses
- 3) An end to evictions of owners, tenants and squatters
- 4) Ensure residents have a say in housing policy.

In May 1975 the Council 'officially' stopped gutting but 'construction' workers admitted they were under orders to 'make houses uninhabitable'. In July there was a 300 strong demonstration outside Islington Town Hall against the council's latest anti-squatter tactic - the intimidation of the LEB and the use of law to stop electricity and gas supplies to squatted houses.

There are 70 houses in Station Ward, which are gutted, and 1,500 gutted houses out of a total of 3,000 empty houses in Islington. Station Ward Squatters demand rehabilitation of gutted houses first, and no evictions.

SPECIAL POLICE PROTECT FRONT.

Dewsbury (PNS). At an anti-fascist demonstration in Dewsbury in early December 27 protesters were arrested. The police brutality was so blatant that one police cadet has since resigned from the force and agreed to be a witness against them. The police who made the majority of arrests were not part of the local police force, but a special unit established for use in demonstrations and picket lines.

The Dewsbury National Front march was apparently the first time this special unit has been used, which may account for the large number of arrests and the police brutality - lines of policemen pursued demonstrators kicking in formation. While one anti-NF demonstrator was being dragged away by his hair an NF member ran up and punched him while he was being held.

No action was taken against the NF member who had temporarily laid down his 'Get tough with the muggers' placard to perpetuate this act of violence.

Socialist Worker, 8 Cotton Gardens, London E2. Contact: The Defend the 27 Fund, c/o Selwyn Smith, 20 Healey Drive, Ossett, West Yorkshire.

THANKS FOR ENGINEER WHO SPURNS APARTHEID PROJECT.

London (PNS). The South African Congress of Trades Unions has sent a telegram of thanks to a Labour Party member who has refused to work on an £8 million contract for the apartheid regime's armed forces.

Mr. John Gaetsewe, SACTU's general secretary, thanked Mr Jock Hall, of Chelmsford, Essex for the stand he took in refusing to work on sophisticated communications equipment at the local Marconi Research Laboratories. The equipment, pointed out Mr Gaetsewe, was "for intended use by South African armed forces against black workers and freedom fighters in their struggle against oppression and exploitation."

Continued.

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Mr. Hall, a research engineer, has reached agreement with the firm about not working on the project and has been suspended temporarily on full pay. He has been warned his career chances are jeopardised by his decision. Chairperson of a Labour Party ward branch, Mr Hall says he cannot agree to work on the project because it will help the regime increase its illegal grip on Namibia. He has called on other people employed by Marconi to refuse to work on the project and asked the government to intervene. The company has said it intends to go ahead with the deal saying that it is "non-political".

The South-West Africa People's Organisation has called on Foreign Secretary James Callaghan to intervene to stop the deal.

Morning Star, 75 Farringdon Road, London, EC1M 3JX.

FRIMS UP

London (PNS). Winston McDonald is Jamaican. He used to live in Loughborough Junction, Brixton, bringing up his 3 children.

During the summer he was walking to school at dinner-time to pick up his kids. Suddenly 2 plain clothes men jumped out of a car, flashed Special Patrol Group identity cards at him, and then searched him. They found a screwdriver in his pocket and told him that they would charge him with carrying an offensive weapon.

He started arguing with them and a scuffle developed. When the 2 of them had got him on the ground they asked a passerby to call the police station. A van arrived and took Winston down to Brixton police station.

He was searched again when they found a penknife in the inside pocket of his jacket. One of the Special Patrol Group officers then went next door and came back with two big slashes in his jersey. He said: 'Now we've really got you'.

Last week Winston McDonald was convicted of attempted murder. He is now in Wormwood Scrubs serving two and a half years. His children, including one who is disabled, have been split up and put in council care.

He has appealed and when the date is known, all possible support will be needed

Contact: Knuckle, Union Place, 122 Vassall Road, London SW9.

POLICE CHIEF GET TOUGH ON CHILDREN.

London (PNS/ANS). Mr Leslie Male, chairperson of the Police Federation, has called on policemen to use their contact with the public and win support for tough penal policies for children.

Speaking in Exeter the police leader said, "We have become disillusioned with a society that acquiesces to violence towards the police. Our members, performing difficult, dangerous duties on behalf of the public are being kicked and stoned by gangs of children." Mr. Male wants to prevent the age of criminal responsibility being raised and claims that his members could swing things his way. "We have 100,000 police officers" he said, "if they meet 10 people a day that's a million people. There could be a groundswell of popular support for the rule of law".

ANS, 61 Goldborne Road, London W10.

BLACKS KEEP OUT OF POLICE FORCE SAY BLF.

London (ANS/PNS). The Black Liberation Front, whose members were involved in the Spaghetti House siege (see PNS No.95) have urged black people to ignore Commissioner Sir Robert Mark's recent appeal for black recruits into the Metropolitan police force.

In the current issue of 'Grassroots', the BLF's newspaper, it states "before joining the police force a potential black candidate should consider the role of the police in our society. Is it a means of helping the whole community or rather one of the main instruments of oppression? The police's record and people's daily experience confirm the latter quite convincingly".

The article goes on to say that American cities like Detroit and New York serve as examples of how black police behave towards other blacks: no different to the way the white police treat blacks in Britain, though here (with the exception of the Special Patrol Group) they don't carry guns. Do we want an American-style of police oppression in Britain?

ANS, 61 Goldborne Road, London W10.

BALCOMBE ST. SIEGE DEMANDS HIDDEN FROM PUBLIC.

London (PNS Correspondent). From the scene of the Balcombe St. siege in Central London last week, PNS has managed to discover what the demands of the men holding the hostages were. These demands were not reported in the national press, and show that the men wanted to be seen by the public and press in the best possible light. The five demands for a bloodless end to the siege were:

- 1) We will release Mrs Matthews first.
- 2) We want to come out looking presentable.
- 3) We want a good meal before interrogation.
- 4) We are not going to be held in a police station for more than 48 hours.
- 5) We insist on being treated as political prisoners.

It is interesting to note that 1), 2) and 3) were all adhered to, a meal being sent into the room where the siege was taking place an hour or so before the end of the siege. However the four men were in fact held for several days in a police station and have not been accorded political status.

LIVERPOOL HOSPITAL WORKERS WIN VICTORY.

Liverpool (PNS). Workers at Walton Hospital have foiled the management's attempt to sack a militant shop steward because he refused to do a job that wasn't laid down in the union rulebook.

The steward argued that the job should be given to an unemployed worker instead. After six-hour talks with the management failed to change their attitude, a mass meeting of ancillary workers on the evening shift agreed to strike until the steward was reinstated. The day shift joined them next day, bringing all 700 ancillaries out despite an 'appeal' having been set up leading to a steward's recommendation to return to work pending that appeal.

This collective show of strength made management see things differently, they reinstated the man and agreed to take on another to do the disputed task.

Big Flame, Box BF, 48 Manchester St., Liverpool 1.

SHELL CLEANERS LAID OFF.

London (PNS). Between 40 and 60 women night cleaners have been made redundant at the Shell Centre under suspicious circumstances.

The official story goes: Office Cleaning Services Ltd., their employers, lost the contract with Shell. A new cleaning company, Rebate, has taken over. They decided to do away with all-night cleaning. Instead they have 250 women coming in for 2½ hours in the evening. It's all in the name of efficiency, they say.

The women who have lost their jobs point to some odd facts about the case. They got a £6 a week pay rise soon after a Knuckle (tenants and workers paper for Lambeth & Southwark) article in July exposed their very bad pay and conditions. That put them above the rate for OCS cleaners elsewhere. It was for a 3-month trial period only. Is it an odd coincidence that the firm "lost the contract" just when this 3 months was up? It is surprising that the new firm cut the contract costs by £1000, the women say, yet are paying the new women 7p an hour MORE than before.

Could this be a clever swop to get rid of militant workers who had won themselves an increase? It's happened before in the history of the night cleaners' campaign. Further news expected soon.

Knuckle, Union Place, 122 Vassall Road, London SW9.

TOMIES ARE TRYING.

London (PNS). Andrew Rowe, a 40 year old don and former civil servant, has been installed in the Conservative Party's Central Office to organise right wing infiltrators in the trade union movement.

Rowe's right winners hope to capture control of the Association of Scientific, Technical and Managerial Staffs (ASTMS) and the National and Local Government Officers' Association (NALGO).

PNS, 61 Goldborne Road, London W10.

HARASSMENT OF CLAY CROSS COUNCILLORS.

Clay Cross (PNS). Local miners, engineers and public employees led a march of 500 people through Clay Cross on Dec 6. in support of the eleven ex-councillors who are being threatened with eviction by bailiffs.

Dave Nuttall, one of the eleven, explained how the councillors would be hit over the next few months: 'Roy Booker's had a letter saying that the valuers will be coming to see how much his furniture's worth and then I suppose they'll try and take it away. David Percival has been told to give up the keys and log book for his car. He's not going to take it to them, and he could go to jail for two years for that'. 'June, my wife, is being surcharged £2800 as one of the second eleven and is appearing in January. If she loses they could take our bungalow, which is in her name'.

Socialist Worker, 8 Cotton Gardens, London E2.

TROOPS OUT SPEAKERS ARRESTED IN SHEFFIELD.

Sheffield (PNS). The two speakers at a Troops Out Movement meeting, Peter Mageean and Pat Arrowsmith were arrested on arrival at Sheffield Midland Station and carried off to an unknown destination on November 28.

When Pat Arrowsmith asked what she was being arrested for, the police replied, 'On suspicion of having subversive documents in your briefcase'. Pat Arrowsmith pointed out that that is not, in fact, an offence and the next police gambit was to say that they were being arrested 'on suspicion of having committed an arrestable offence'.

The meeting, which attracted 80 people, was prepared to go as a body and picket the central police station until the speakers were released from custody. In the end the two were released, but only after the press and the local Labour Party had been alerted, and Martin Flannery, MP for Hillsborough, had phoned the police to protest. The two were held for an hour and a half. They were released without being charged with anything, and during that time they had not been allowed to contact solicitors. Pat Arrowsmith is planning to sue the Chief Constable of Sheffield for 'false imprisonment'. Sheffield Free Press, 14 Vicar Lane, Sheffield 13.

NEW FILM ON PORTUGAL GETS SHOWING.

London (PNS Correspondent). A recently made film covering the unfolding revolutionary process in Portugal since April 25 1974 has been shown in London. It is called 'Viva Portugal' and was made by 'Infoscope', a collective of German and French movie-makers. An English version has been prepared by Cinema Action who are presenting it around the country.

The two-hour long documentary covers the period from the Armed Forces Movement takeover in April 74 up to the attempted right wing coup in March this year, which was foiled thanks to the solidarity of soldiers and workers. It does not press the case for any political line but is a collection of images and struggles from that period which provides an excellent background to recent events, such as the disastrous November 25 insurrection by the left, which was foiled and which led to big setbacks for the revolutionary movement in Portugal.

We see the growing demands of the Portuguese working class for nationalisation, land redistribution, and better wages, houses, medical services etc. For the soldiers it is a continual learning process as they hold meetings in the countryside to hear the peasants' problems. The film shows two examples of peasants taking direct action on their own behalfs; one group seizes land and sets up an organising committee, another takes over an empty house and turns it into a People's Clinic. As well as interviews with steel workers, we are shown in the streets, the notorious cavalry, who were prevented from attacking a people's demonstration because of the sympathetic soldiers standing by and the press watching.

The team interview bank workers whose investigation of accounts shows how the March right-wing coup attempt was financed by reactionaries drawing money on overdraft facilities. These exposures led to the nationalization of the banks.

Of course, a lot has happened since March this year, but despite drastic setbacks, the people's struggle goes on and Cinema Action and co-sponsors Portuguese Workers' Solidarity Campaign need a contribution of £25 for each showing of the film; special rates apply where admission is charged or a donation collected. Trade Union showings can be specially negotiated with Cinema Action. Leaflets and posters are available for advertising the film. They also supply full projection equipment and a projectionist Continued.....

Continued.....

for £8 plus transport expenses.

Cinema Action, 35a Winchester road, London NW3. Tel: 01/586/2762.

WORKER SACKED FOR PLAYING MUSIC

London (PNS Correspondent). A waiter and manager from the Great American Disaster Restaurant in Queensway, London, have been sacked as a result of the actions of a relief manager, Les Micham.

On Sunday December 14 John Summers a waiter turned on a tape recorder and the relief manager who had only just arrived at work, one and a half hours late, got angry and started pushing John and shouting 'Get out' etc. John warned him that he would hit him if he pushed him again and Micham attempted to do so. John decided to get out and the other four workers there also left in solidarity with John.

Les Micham, a personal friend of Jean Clark, a director of the firm was originally brought in to help boost sales. He earns a higher wage than the permanent manager, Simon Ward. When the staff told the permanent manager of the facts, he talked to the director in support of John, the sacked worker, and was himself suspended. John intends taking legal action against the firm for unfair dismissal.

The manager was considering similar action but it is unlikely that he will now, as at a staff party last week he aired his grievances physically, as a result of which Les Micham will be spending the next two weeks recovering from the injuries he received.

THAMESIDE SOCIALIST CENTRE AND BOOKSHOP OPENS.

Newcastle (PNS Correspondent). On Saturday December 13 there was a party to celebrate the opening of a new socialist centre at Jesmond Road, Newcastle upon Tyne 2. The centre comprises a bookshop (Cradlewell books), meeting rooms, a reading room, and a small theatre/cinema. A large number of activities are planned, exhibitions and workshops on Marxism, women, welfare state, history of the radical left. Some activities are already under way.

* EVENTS *

Tuesday 30 December: LONDON.

Marxist-Leninist Organisation of Britain. Discussion meeting on 'Strategy and Tactics of National-Democratic Revolutions in the Epoch of Imperialism'. 7.30, 18 Camberwell Church St. London SE5 (Tel 703 0561)

Wednesday 31 December: LONDON.

Sappho New Year's Eve Disco with food and raffle. 8.00pm upstairs bar, Sols Arms, Hampstead Road, London NW1. (Warren St. Tube). Tickets only (£2). Apply early to Sappho, 39 Wardour St. W1 with SAE. Women only.

Tuesday 6 January: MANCHESTER.

Court appearance of the Platt Fields six at the Magistrates Court charged under the Incitement to Disaffection Act. All support welcomed. Contact: Geoff Minshall, 6 Stockley Ave, Bolton. (Tel 0204 387516)

Thursday 15th January: LONDON.

A group of people are meeting to discuss the setting up of non-sectarian Centres for Marxist Education in London. Centres have already been established in Leeds, Manchester and Bristol. If you are interested in helping please be at the Red Cap pub, Camden Town tube, at 7.30pm.

Saturday 17 January: LONDON

Abortion Rights Conference at Friends Meeting House, Easton Road, London NW1. Details from ALMA 88a Islington High St. N1. Even if you can't go, you can help with circulating local hospitals, Trade Unions, law centres etc.

HOME SHORTS

ATTI WOMEN WIN DAY-CARE FACILITIES

Women members of ATTI (Association of Teachers in Technical Institutions) and students from Kingsway-Princeton College have finally won their two-year long battle for day-care facilities for children of staff and students. It is the first College of Further Education in Inner London to gain these facilities. The nursery is being financed by the Camden Council for Service who will provide £500 in salaries for the first six months. It is now official ATTI policy to support campaigns for creches in colleges.

EQUAL PAY STRIKE IN SHEFFIELD

600 workers at the Easterbrook Allcards factory decided to take strike action after the management had rejected the demands of 261 women for equal pay for equal work.

EXTREMISTS IN THE MEDIA?

Don Sayer, an employee of Granada television, is the North Manchester branch chairman of the National Front. According to the anti-fascist newspaper Searchlight his former allegiances include the 'British Campaign To Stop Immigration', Mosley's Union Movement and Colin Jordan's British Movement.

WEST MIDLANDS CLP MEETS

West Midlands Community Levy for Alternative Projects are holding a gathering at the Arts Lab, Tower Street, Newtown, Birmingham on Jan.18. Groups like Third World Publications, Ecology Party, Selly Oak Paper and Birmingham Anarchists have shown interest but more ideas are wanted from different groups. Several general areas of discussion have been suggested e.g. a summer festival, a new Birmingham alternative paper, alternative printing and publishing in Birmingham, new projects etc. Food and a real ale session are planned and a meeting has been called for Jan.4 1976 at 36 Sandford Road, Moseley, Birmingham 13, 6 p.m. to discuss the festival. You can express your delight at the venture by writing/phoning Ian and Jane at Sunrise 021-454-0435, Alison at the Peace Centre 021-643-0996, Nicky Newton at Third World Publications 021-773-6572 or Stuart Daniels on 021-472-1301 ext. 2785.

RELEASE ON CANNABIS

Release is preparing a report/manual on the growing and cultivation of cannabis in the British Isles. A number of handbooks are available at the moment but they are mainly American in origin. Nothing has been published that deals specifically with British climate and conditions. Release would like to hear from anybody who has successfully grown dope in Britain with details of methods, quality etc. All communications will be treated in the strictest confidence.

DRUGS RULING

The Court of Appeal recently decided in R v Wright (13.11.75) Times Law "report, that a passenger in a vehicle who is told to dispose of a container which he believes may contain controlled drugs but doesn't know that as a fact, is not guilty of possession because he has custody but not control of the drugs.

HOMELESS AND PREGNANT

Theoretically, women expecting a first child are a priority group for local authority housing help. But in a recent survey by After Six Housing Advisory Trust on a follow-up of 107 inquiries from homeless, pregnant women, it was found that there is great inconsistency in the response of local authorities. Hammersmith accepts responsibility as soon as pregnancy is medically confirmed, but other councils wait until the third, fifth or seventh months before accepting a woman as statutorily homeless. At least a dozen boroughs refuse accommodation until the child is born and the household becomes a 'family'. (last two stories from Release Newsletter 1 Elgin Ave. London W9 289 1123 emergency 603 8654)

PAY JUMPUS

Employees of Wyre Forest District Council in Worcestershire were furious when their local paper, the 'Kidderminster Shuttle', published a list of their wages. The main reason for their anger was that the disclosure had caused several cases of domestic strife. As the Chief Executive of the council said in his letter to the editor, 'Perhaps it did not occur to you that some men are not in the habit of declaring their earnings to their wives.'

US FINANCES RESEARCH INTO BIOLOGICAL WARFARE.

India (PNS) - Four projects financed by the USA in India under innocent titles are in fact researching biological warfare which could be used around the world. The projects are funded directly the US Dept. of Defence or indirectly by US civilian institutions with military connections, all major personnel, with two exceptions are non-Indian, and data is collected in India but analysis and processing of data is done outside and no reports are made to the Indian Government.

This American backed research came to light in a report of the Public Accounts Committee of Parliament into foreign participation in research projects in India. The projects are the Genetic Control of Mosquitoes Unit (GCMU), Bird Migration Study, Ultra Low Volume (ULV), Spray Project at Jodhpur and the Pesticides Project at Patnagar University of Agriculture.

GCMU on the surface is an attempt to genetically control mosquitoes which feed off monkeys and spread yellow fever. A UN report has stated that if the yellow fever virus were introduced into Asia or the Pacific Islands, the results would be calamitous. But there are two sinister overtones to this research. First the project is trying to reduce the possibility of people catching dengue fever, a mild flu-like virus carried by the mosquito. But dengue fever is an illness which if caught even once immunises people from the deadly yellow fever! Second the project uses a sterilising agent called thiotepa which has been banned in the US and Canada because it can cause cancer, foetal deformations and mutations in human beings.

The Bird Migration Study is done under the cover of WHO (World Health Organization). Migratory birds have great military potential as weapons of biological warfare because of their predictable behaviour. Finance comes from a US Army unit based in Bangkok called MAPS (Migratory Animal Pathological Survey). Funds flow through the network of BNHS (Bombay Natural History Society) from the WHO, Smithsonian Institute, and Rockefeller Foundation. The project representative of the last named, previously served as Chief Officer for the Asian Region of the CIA.

ULV is supposed to conduct spray experiments to control malaria but the machine used for spraying aerosols of Biological Warfare (BW) agents. The Pesticide Project could also be involved in studying how to protect against BW diseases.

All these projects have had their licenses to work from the Indian Government. By a series of agreements, the extension of these licenses can be dealt with directly between US agencies and WHO without informing the Indian Government. Journalists have tried to question the government about the real nature of this work. When one journalist finally managed in 1974 to interview the top Indian officials concerned with the projects, he was not allowed to ask a single question but was offered a highly lucrative job at the WHO information in Geneva!

South Asia Newsletter. Correspondence to S.Kumar, 22 Boundary Road, London NW3.

CHILEAN JUNTA ISSUES PHONEY 'MIR COMMUNIQUE'

New York (PNS) - The fascist junta has issued a phoney 'communique' in the name of the Movement of the Revolutionary Left (MIR) condemning two top MIR leaders to death. The Nov. 30 'communique' was widely disseminated inside Chile and in the international press. It falsely claimed the MIR had expelled and sentenced to death general secretary Andres Pascal Allende and political commission member Nelson Guiterrez Yanez because they had gained asylum in two Santiago embassies and were seeking safe conduct passes out of the country. This was in violation of standing orders of the MIR, the spurious statement said, thus 'MIR militants and revolutionaries of the entire world were urged to execute the sentences however, whenever and wherever they can.' This attempt to isolate MIR leaders and set them up for murder by agents of the junta was emphatically denounced by MIR in a statement issued in Havana on Dec. 1. 'Before the working class and world public opinion, we denounce this new step in the junta's escalated efforts to eliminate these two revolutionaries. We call upon organizations, parties, friendly governments and progressive sectors throughout the world to mobilize to prevent the junta from committing another crime. We demand the junta respect the right of foreign representatives in Chile to grant refuge to the resistance fighters, allowing the immediate and safe departure of our general secretary.'

ALIEN I.D. CARDS TO BE ISSUED

San Francisco(PNS) - A dangerous new identification card system, described by the Immigration and Naturalisation Service(INS) as the latest and very best that technology can provide' is in the works.

At a November 19 press conference in Washington, INS Chief Gen. Leonard Chapman introduced the new system of red, white and blue plastic cards which will replace all 16 currently used alien registration cards and Mexican border-crossing 'green cards'. The cards will carry photograph and fingerprints as well as other information in the form of coded numbers.

One code, he said, will be developed by the National Security Agency, a super-secret federal intelligence organisation whose budget is 10 times that of the CIA. Everyone registered as an 'alien' in the US will be required to carry the new card, which will be in full use by 1980. Every new immigrant arriving after May 1976 will receive one. Chapman, who formerly commanded US troops in Vietnam, said the hope of the INS was that the cards would be checked not only by immigration authorities but also by employers and prospective employers.

'We hope' he said, 'to be in a position where an employer or anyone with reason to check the validity of an alien identification card could simply pick up a telephone and call an immigration office, read some numbers off the card and immediately find out if the card is valid or phoney. You've seen clerks in retail stores do this many times with credit cards. Chapman's aide, John Matsen, was asked how decisions would be made as to who would be required to show their cards. 'If I encounter someone,' he replied, 'who, because of their speech, their dress, various things, I reasonably believe are aliens, then I have the right to ask them 'do you have an alien registration card? After talking to them if I'm satisfied that my reasonable belief that a person is an alien has been dispelled, then that's all there is. If I'm not satisfied, then I'll go further. I'd turn them loose until I completed an investigation.'

Opponents of the proposed Rodino Bill on 'illegal aliens' and Criminal Justice Reform Bill now before Congress have charged that a computerised identification system like this for all US residents will be next if those repressive laws are passed. The Rodino Bill is aimed at allowing for the deportation of large numbers of unregistered aliens(see PNS 99) and its disturbing 763-page proposals first introduced by President Nixon would rewrite virtually the entire federal criminal code. Guardian 33 West 17 Street, New York, New York.

LATEST NEWS ON UNITED FARMWORKERS

New York(PNS) - The State Agricultural Labor Relations Board(ALRB) has charged the E and J Gallo Winery(largest in US) with illegally assisting the Teamsters Union during the farmworkers union election on Sept. 10(see PNS 97) and with 'massive surveillance' of organisers from the United Farmworkers(UFW) during the campaign.

In its charges the ALRB said Gallo supervisors and Teamster organisers worked together in observing, photographing and writing down the names of workers who talked with reps from the UFW. The board also stated that access to workers was granted to the Teamsters but denied to the UFW, workers were 'encouraged' by the company to attend Teamster meetings, Teamster literature was distributed at Gallo offices, Teamster supporters were hired while UFW supporters were not and workers sympathetic to the UFW were fired before the election.

The ALRB is scheduled to conduct a formal hearing on these charges in February. Should the charges be proved, the board can order a new election. However, if the votes of the striking workers are allowed(130 votes for the UFW by striking workers are contested by Gallo) the UFW would be the winner and would probably not press for a new election. In the hearings on the votes of the striking workers, each worker is being questioned about his or her activities since the UFW strike began in 1973. Gallo and Teamster attorneys are trying to get the workers to admit they have given up the intention to work at Gallo again, but the workers have been saying they would work for Gallo again if there were a UFW contract there. Gallo has also denied there was a strike in 1973 claiming that the workers who walked out of the fields were given an opportunity to return to work and then 'permanently replaced' when they didn't. Guardian 33 West 17 Street New York NY

FRENCH PROSTITUTES FORM UNION AND SPEAK UP

Paris (PNS) - On November 18, French prostitutes held their first national conference, attended by 4,000/5,000 people. Doctors, lawyers, social workers and political leaders had been invited to talk, and the women themselves voiced their anger and their fears. All the decisions at the conference weretaken by the whole audience.

Following the conference, everybody decided to march to parliament. Police cordons blocked the streets, forcing the demonstrators into a dead end. Despite assurances from the chief inspector, the CRS (anti-riot squad carrying riot shields and tear gas, and wearing helmets) dived into the crowd, beating up people at random. Some women were arrested and dragged to a police van and one had to be taken to hospital with head injuries.

It is essential to point out the REAL demands of the prostitutes as they have been somewhat misinterpreted by the media. Here is a statement made by the French prostitutes collective and some of the feelings that they have expressed either in writing or in interviews.

'We asked for the Government to listen to us in our capacity as women. A truce was promised, but not respected and police repression is now hitting us even harder. We are absolutely unable to have any activity. So we now say: No to brothels, No to fines, No to prison sentences. Yes to more humane justice, Yes for being fully considered as women.

'We want to discuss the prevention of prostitution. When we want to stop, it is hardly possible to find a job. We also want to set up residential centres for our kids. We want the public to ask us questions, as they are usually very badly informed and our problem is every woman's concern. Prostitution means no to good conscience but yes to the ministry of finance.

'So far history has been the history of the trade in women; exchange of women, speculation over women's bodies, selling bodies like goods. In the eyes of justice the scapegoat is always the woman. Refusing a sexual service is called rape and it is also penalised. In all rape cases the private life of a woman and her sexual past are exposed and questioned so that man's justice can rule on her authenticity. Women are oppressed as a class and as a race. If a woman openly wants to make a living out of the sex-state system she has to be gaoled, and heavily taxed. If prostitutes accept being part of the present system, it means they accept the assumption that prostitution is inevitable and will always exist.

'We all are prostitutes because we have always been sold. They sold it for a wedding ring, and lord, they sold it cheap. We all know that the ring is legal, and the law prevails when a man receives a woman from another man.

'A prostitute who wants to make a living must pretend all the time. She cannot be a woman. The customer only sees eyes, a bust, buttocks, he does not see a woman.

'We do not want prostitution to be legalised, because legalisation is also penalisation - it's taxation and exploitation. We do not want the right to sell ourselves or to buy ourselves up.

'We are the political prisoners of the state. Prostitution is the acceptance and assurance of a society where women can only be mothers or prostitutes. Emma Goldman says, "It is merely a question of degree whether a woman sells herself to one man, in or out of marriage, or to many men. In both cases she has to sell herself."

'Le quotiolien des femmes", 70 rue des Saints-Peres, 75007 Paris. Liberation, 27 rue de Lorraine, 75019 Paris.

TORTURED PEOPLE OF CHILE SUFFER MORE

Santiago (PNS Correspondent) - With inflation at 344.4 per cent in the last twelve months, unemployment at over 20 per cent and the national product at least 10 per cent down on the already depressed level of 1974, the Chilean Military Junta is accelerating its attempts to repress the people.

Repression has been greatly stepped up over the last month, to levels only attained immediately after the Fascist coup. Prisoners in jails and concentration camps have been subjected to renewed interrogation and torture. Hundreds of people are being arrested every day throughout the country, especially in the shanty towns where the communities have organised forms of mutual aid to face misery and hunger.

Once again tanks have appeared in the streets. This was justified through the 'discovery' by the intelligence services of the 'red boomerang plan' in which 1,200 guerrilleros trained in Cuba were about to cross the Andes to assassinate Pinochet and take over the country. The massive arrests and 'rake operations' have yielded undoubted successes to the Junta. The MIR leadership was detected in Matipo, not far from Santiago, and in the confrontation that followed, Political Commission member Dagoberto Perez was killed. The others managed to escape, but a couple of days later Martin Hernandez, another member of the Political Commission, was arrested together with a priest who was lodging him, Gerardo Whelan. Andres Pascal Allende, the MIR's Gen. Secretary, and No. 2 leader Nelson Gutierrez, had to take refuge in the Costa Rican and Vatican Embassies respectively. A British doctor, Sheila Cassidy, who had provided medical assistance to the wounded Gutierrez, was arrested, as were Sergio Marotto and Fernando Salas, two well known Chilean priests who are working in the Committee for Peace, an ecumenical organisation helping prisoners and their families. At least two other priests have been arrested in Copiapo, a city in the North, several Maryknoll sisters had to take refuge in the US Embassy, and the US priest John Devlin sought asylum in the Vatican Embassy.

Moreover, Manuel Dinamarca, the most prestigious trade-union leader of the Socialist Party and member of the executive of the clandestine CUT (The Chilean TUC), was arrested, as were 8 activists of the MAPU in Arica, next to the border with Peru. President Pinochet took advantage of the occasion to launch an attack on the Church, the only source of open criticism to the Junta. The Chilean media is viciously attacking 'bad priests helping terrorists', suggesting that the Church is 'infiltrated' by agents of 'the intrinsically perverse doctrine of marxism-leninism'. At the height of that campaign, Pinochet sent a letter to the Archbishop of Santiago demanding the immediate closure and dissolution of the Committee for Peace, a humanitarian institution which was getting too popular and respected. The Archbishop accepted the order, but within the next 48 hours travelled to the Vatican, via Washington.

The UN has meanwhile been discussing a resolution that the General Assembly express 'its profound uneasiness on the constant and open violation of human rights in Chile, including the institutionalised practice of torture, of cruel and inhuman, degrading treatment and punishments, and arbitrary arrests and deportations.' This resolution was already approved in the UN Third World Commission, by 90 votes (including even the US) to 11 with 20 abstentions. Considering the degree of isolation of the Junta internationally, and the importance of a UN resolution, the timing for this new wave of massive intimidation and repression can only be understood as a recognition of the growing influence of the resistance movement.

KING JUAN CARLOS I : THE GHOST OF FRANCO

Despite widespread speculation in the Western press that Juan Carlos is about to institute reforms and democratise the political process, the facts do not bear up to this prediction. PNS has received a report from the US Committee inside Spain (a group of US citizens who are publishing material in an effort to create a movement of support for the workers of Spain) which shows that the velvet glove of token reform that Juan Carlos has offered to the Spanish people thinly disguises the iron fist of Francoist repression. The report also documents the collusion of Spanish police with the ultra-right terrorist organizations and, also, what at stake for American Imperialism in Spain.

On November 22, the new king of Spain was acclaimed in the streets. On the same day police were arresting four presumed members of the moderate Socialist Party. Cambio 16, Spain's most widely read liberal magazine, has recently had some issues suppressed. In Madrid on November 26, a press conference called by the Socialist Party was prohibited by the government, and subsequently 30 people were charged with illegal association. On the same day, a Spanish court increased the sentences of two Basques whose cases were on review and pronounced sentence on 7 men accused of membership in Workers' Commissions.

On November 27, police armed with tear gas and water hoses broke up a 2000 strong march in Madrid, which was demonstrating on behalf of political prisoners. The so-called amnesty for political prisoners was no more far-reaching than those granted by Franco himself on important anniversaries of his regime. A small minority of political prisoners with 30-year sentences will now serve 25, and prisoners condemned to death will now serve life.

The government inherited by Juan Carlos is dominated by Falangists, popularly dubbed the 'Bunker' (a reference to Hitler's suicide site) or 'immobilistas' (the immovables). Although there have been some ministerial changes, Arias Navarro has retained his post as the president of the government. The strength of Left-wing opposition to Juan Carlos has galvanised the ultra-rightists into militant activity. In October, a group of right-wing commandos attempted to force an entry into Madrid's Carabanchel prison, avowedly to kill political prisoners. Prison guards repelled the attack. Right-wing groups violently assaulted students and lecturers inside universities Madrid, Saragossa and Valencia. These are just two of a mass of incidents documented by the US Committee inside Spain.

Best known of the right-wing terrorist groups is the 'Guerilleros de Cristo Rey'. It has strong connections with the Italian Fascist movement and its leader has called for a 'Fascist International'. In November a death list of 600 Catalans appeared in the Italian press and those named have since received 'death letters'. With the cooperation of the police the Guerilleros have operated extensively in the Basque provinces of Spain and France. An ETA founder (the Basque Nationalist Movement) was killed in a bar by two Guardia Civil (Civil Guard) and it is widely believed that many members of the Guerrilleros are, in fact, policemen.

The US has, of course, a major interest in upholding Juan Carlos' regime. As the International Herald Tribune reported last year, 250 American companies have made use of Spain's cheap labour, ^{and} tax incentives, including a new law permitting foreign investors to buy up to 50% of any Spanish company. A further incentive is the strict government control of unions (non-government approved unions are illegal) and the Ford Motor Company is currently transferring much of its operations from the UK to Spain. With the aid of generous Spanish loans, a massive plant is under construction in Valencia.

Agreements pending between Spain and the US would cost the latter between 500 and 700 million dollars in military aid to modernise the Spanish army. The naval base at Rota (for Polaris submarines) is also the second largest US naval base in the world and is considered crucial to its Mediterranean strategy. There are large air bases at Torreja and Saragossa. The US has for some time been pressurising for Spain's entry into NATO, but European allies have consistently refused.

According to ^a recent poll, a 3-1 majority of Spaniards are opposed to the continued military presence of the US and it is to be hoped that the Spanish people, in alliance with their comrades in Portugal, will organise to eradicate the last vestiges of American backed Fascism from the Iberian Peninsula.

Source: US Committee inside Spain, C/O Marie Ange Falques, Boite Postale 2020, Sainte Assisele, Perpignan, France.

INDONESIAN MILITARY INVADE EAST TIMOR

Dili, East Timor (PNS). At dawn on the 7 December, (supposedly on the request of two Timor parties, the UDT and APODETI), more than 1,000 Indonesian Army paratroop commandos (referred to by the Indonesian spokesman as 'volunteers') parachuted into Dili the capital of East Timor. Four Indonesian Navy warships also entered the port of Dili and discharged hundreds of Indonesian regular marines.

The final radio messages frantically sent from the city and monitored in Australia before being silenced by force were painfully clear about the massacring that followed. "They are all around the airfield and in Dili. They have us surrounded. Please help us. They are killing women and children in the streets. They are killing indiscriminately."

One message said people who had taken refuge inside churches when they saw the troops coming were being dragged out. Another desperate broadcast repeated the plea: "Women and children are being shot indiscriminately in the streets. We are all going to be killed. S.O.S. Do something, do something....."

Only a week earlier, Foreign Minister Adam Malik declared that the Timor issue would soon be 'off the drawing board and onto the battlefield! On Thursday the 4th, the Indonesian government repeated its support for Portugal's decolonisation policy. The very next day, Malik called in ambassadors from 8 key governments (Australia, New Zealand, the U.S., the Soviet Union, Malaysia, Thailand and Singapore) and warned them formally that 'they should not be surprised at any steps Indonesia might take'.

It is hardly coincidental that President Ford and Dr. Henry Kissinger had only just completed a 24-hour visit in Jakarta on return from China a few short hours before the invasion. Reuters quoted Kissinger as saying that 'the Timorese issue was discussed during consultations between Ford, General Suharto, Adam Malik and himself, and that 'the U.S. would not recognise Fretilin anyway. The U.S. understands Indonesia's position on the question'. The Fretilin spokesman in Darwin, Christivao Santos, after accusing Australia of betraying the Timorese people for not taking steps to pressure Indonesia away from its invasion plans, said significantly "Kissinger knew of the invasion and gave it his encouragement".

The Associated Press quoted in November a diplomat assigned to Jakarta that Indonesia 'already had made a policy decision to incorporate East Timor into Indonesia and would not accept an independent regime headed by Fretilin'. (International Herald Tribune, 10 December). In its leader on 9 Dec., the Times said "As soon as East Timor's independence was foreseen Indonesia's intention to take the territory became plain". British East Timor Campaign has now been established, with its initial sponsors including Geoff Edge MP, Jo Richardson MP, and Stan Newens MP. It can be contacted at 21 Solon Rd., London SW2.

TAPOL, 193 Tilehurst Rd., Wandsworth Common, London SW18.

U.S. GOVERNMENT WON'T BAN FLAGYL

New York (PNS/ANS). The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) refused on October 28 to ban Flagyl, widely prescribed for vaginal infections despite evidence that it may cause cancer and birth defects. The decision came in response to a 1974 petition filed by the Health Research Group (HRG), a Washington based public interest organisation. Flagyl is the brand name for metronidazole prescribed mainly for the treatment of trichomonas vaginitis, a common vaginal infection known as 'trich'. Men remain free of the symptoms, but are susceptible to trich and transmit it through intercourse. Flagyl is prescribed to over 2 million women a year in the U.S. (often for infections that cannot be cured by it) and is also commonly prescribed in Britain.

Manufactured by G.D. Searle, Flagyl yields profits to the company of over 17 million dollars. 9 years after Flagyl was first approved by the FDA, a 1972 study by the National Cancer Institute indicated that the drug caused cancer in mice. Two years later Adrian Gross, a FDA medical officer testified before a Senate sub-committee hearing that G.D. Searle had falsified data on the occurrence of cancerous

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tumours in test animals who were given Flagyl.

In November 1974, Dr. Marvin Legator, head of genetic toxicology at Brown University revealed in a report that the urine of people treated with Flagyl showed a substance indicating gene mutations. Genetic mutation is one known cause of birth defects.

"Metronidazole is carcinogenic in rodents, mutagenic in bacteria, and should be regarded as potentially dangerous in humans," states the June 1975 Medical Letter-- a non-profit publication on drugs run by medical school doctors across the US. "It should not be used for trichomonas infections that can be made asymptomatic by other means".

WAVE OF STUDENT PROTEST IN NEW YORK

New York (LNS/PNS)- On 5 separate occasions in November CUNY (City University of New York) students demonstrated in groups of over a thousand against massive budget cutbacks which would dismantle one of the country's most progressive higher education systems.

The principal targets of the cutbacks are CUNY's open admission policy, financial aid programmes and special studies. Other economies being discussed include the closing of 6 of CUNY's 20 campuses and an immediate reduction of the student body by 20,000. The groups involved in the November demonstrations, the CUNY Student Senate, National Student Coalition Against Racism and CUNY United For Action, say they will continue to exert pressure on the city's Board of Higher Education.

MERRY XMAS, PALESTINIANS, WITH LOVE USA

New York (PNS/LNS)- New American missiles for Israel will be equipped with anti-personnel 'bomblets' used widely during the Vietnam war. The surface-to-surface Lance missiles with a range of 70 miles carry a warhead that can be filled with 860 BLU-63 'bomblets'. The BLU-63 is an 'improved' version of the one pound Guava 'bomblet' that wreaked havoc in Vietnam. Like the Guava the BLU-63 can be used with a delay fuse that causes the bomblets to explode at random intervals hours after an attack has ended and people have emerged from their shelters. The warheads are manufactured by Honeywell and assembled in Picatinny Arsenal in New Jersey. They cost 20,000 dollars each.

AUTO WORKERS PROTEST GM ACTIVITY IN CHILE

New York (LNS/PNS)- The United Auto Workers (UAW) executive board voted recently to protest General Motor's decision to begin a vast auto and truck assembly operation in Chile. GM, Ford and Chrysler asked permission from the Chilean junta to resume their operations, which they shut down during the Allende administration, and all submitted bids to the junta in April, 1975. At that time 236,000 American auto workers had been laid off by these 3 companies who intended to pay Chilean workers much lower wages. Only GM's bid was accepted from the US along with those of Peugeot-Renault and Fiat.

"By closing down their operations in our country in 1971, these companies conspired to cause a crisis in spare parts, seriously crippling Chile's transportation", explained Laura Allende and Pedro Vuscovic, 2 exiled members of the Popular Unity government, in a letter to people in the USA this spring.

"Their complicity in the economic boycott against the Popular Unity government was a serious factor in creating a climate which facilitated the military coup of September 11, 1973. Now with the temporary military dictatorship, the murder of some thirty thousand of our citizens, the establishment of concentration camps and torture houses throughout our lands, and with effective trade unions outlawed, Ford, GM, and Chrysler perceive an opportunity for investment and the production of excess profits!"

Many unions in Europe and Latin-America have been active in direct economic pressure against the Chilean junta since early 1974. British dock workers have refused to handle cargo destined for Chile; French workers have followed suit in Marseilles and other ports, and the Australian Council of Trade Unions carried on a national protest and transportation boycott that delayed the shipment of 54 million dollars worth of wheat.

September mass rallies in Paris protested the participation of Peugeot-Renault in the Chile project, and affiliates of the World Confederation of Labor, the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions are all mounting a campaign against Fiat. But American Unions other than the UAW, have been conspicuously silent on the subject. The AFL-CIO, which issued an extremely mild condemnation of the Chilean junta during its September convention, has refused to speak out, and for good reason.

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Peoples News Service, December 22 1975 Int 8.
Several documented studies published in 1974, indicate that the AFL-CIO's American Institute for Free Labor Development (AIFLD) was part of the CIA effort to 'destabilize', the Allende government, encouraging right-wing labor activity, including the truck-owners strike in October, 1972. Since the coup, only AIFLD union activity has been allowed.

KILLING IS MURDER

Tokyo (PNS) - For the first time in the history of Japanese anti-pollution struggles, criminal charges are being brought against executives of a company, the Chisso Company. Its Minimata plant has discharged mercury into the sea causing the outbreak of the fatal Minimata disease. On November the 26th, 4 former executives were charged with professional negligence resulting in death. This filing of charges was consequent upon the corroboration of claims that Chisso continued to dump mercury after evidence had been received confirming the chemical's responsibility for the disease. To this day new disease victims continue to appear in the Minimata area.

New Asia News Notes, PO Box 5250, Tokyo International, Japan.
For a detailed history of the long and tortuous struggle against the Chisso Co., 'Minimata' by W. Eugene and Aileen M. Smith (Chatto & Windus £7-50) The book should be released soon in a much cheaper paperback version.)

ANGOLA : WHAT IS AT STAKE FOR IMPERIALISM

Luanda (PNS/PNS) - Angola is by far the richest of Portugal's former African colonies, and the Western multi-national companies are determined to continue plundering the country's wealth. COTONANG, which appropriates cotton harvested in Angola was established in the country by the Salazar regime. COTONANG is a branch of the General Corporation of Belgium (SGB), which has ties with the French bank Bellet & Co.. The SGB also has ties with the DIAMANG, a firm controlling diamond production in the LUANDA province. Angola is the 5th largest producer of diamonds, which account for 25% of the national product. 20,000 Angolans work in the mines of Luanda under the management of 2,500 Europeans technicians and the surveillance of a 500 man, private army (composed of former mercenaries who fought in the Congo).

The iron is exported through the port of Lobito and is mined by the Companhia Mineira de Lobito. The main shareholders are the German firm Krupp and the Danish Joygaard and Schulz firm, along with the British Steel Corporation and the French firm Sidelar. British Lonhro Ltd. supplied Jonas Savimbi, head of UNITA, with a jet for his travels in June and is undoubtedly counting on his support if he comes to power.

Oil extracted off the coast of Cabinda comprises 44% of Angola's exports and is controlled by Gulf Oil; the French Company ELF-Erap controls an oil concession in the Congolese territorial waters. Other financial and oil concerns are operating in Cabinda.

These include the Belgian corporation Petrofina and the South African federal bank Moybon. The French Cie. Francaise des Petroles holds prospecting rights for the last unexploited resource in Angola, uranium, which abounds in the southern part of the country.

WOMEN IN SPAIN

London (PNS) 4 Spanish women came to Essex Road Womens Aid Centre in Islington to talk about the situation of women in Spain. PNS has summarised what they said.

Women come of age when they are 21. All women must live with their parents or with their husbands until then. They are not allowed to work, study or travel without their father's or husband's permission. Before a woman can get a job, a driving licence, a passport or degree, she must do at least six months in the womens' section of the Fascist Falange, during which she is indoctrinated in religion, home economics and her place in society.

Despite desperate poverty, most women cannot find work - only 27 per cent do, as most factories will not employ married women; typically, women are paid up to 40 per cent less than men for the same work. Amnesty International states that there are about 2,000 women imprisoned in Spain for their links with political groups. Many are inside because their husbands have been arrested.

The women said: 'All militant women in Spain support any group which is agitating against Fascism, for all Fascism is based on the total oppression of women, the total denial of all rights to women'. The repression that women face is ever apparent and the danger that they are in is clear. For instance, last year all of the women who had been trying

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to organize a womens' conference on the family, working conditions and sexuality were arrested after a provocateur's bombing. The women were arrested just six weeks before the conference was due to start.

These women need support. As an example of how solidarity can help, the women spoke of Marie Luz Fernandez who was kept in total isolation for 110 days in appalling conditions and like many other women, badly tortured; Now partially crippled, she has been released because two women's prisons threatened a hunger strike, and French women protested.

The women are trying to discover more about women in Spanish prisons: the reasons for their imprisonment and the conditions to which they are subjected. They meet every Friday at 6pm in Womens' Liberation Workshop, 38 Earlham Street, London WC 1. Tel: 01 836 6081.

SOUTH AFRICAN INVASION OF ANGOLA

Angola (PNS) - The Vorster regime has mounted a full scale invasion of Angola, amidst almost total silence from Western governments, international agencies and the Western bourgeois press. Eyewitness reports say that regular South African troops are advancing on Luanda and are now fighting at least 450 miles inside Angola. The South African army has set up a base at Sa da Bandeira, over 250 miles inside Angolan territory and uniformed South African troops have been seen stacking arms crates at Benguela airport.

Western military equipment being used in the fighting includes Panhard armoured cars, manufactured in South Africa under licence from France and the French-West German designed Transair C-1 transport aircraft. A British company, Racal, is known to have supplied seven radio stations direct to Unita. The invasion is being carried out across the Northern border of Namibia; South Africa is therefore using its illegal occupation of Namibia to commit an act of aggression against another legally constituted and independent territory. South African Foreign Minister, Hilgard Muller, speaking in London on November 18 admitted that South African troops are in Angola, but maintained the spurious contention that they are only in the South of the country to protect the Kunene hydro-electric scheme. This myth has finally been exploded, with the news widely reported in the Western press, that four South African Defence Force men have been captured by the MPLA some 450 miles from the Angola-Namibia border. The four were paraded for the press in Luanda on December 16 and publicly questioned by MPLA officials. The South African Minister of Defence, PW Botha was compelled to admit in a statement in Pretoria on December 17 that the four soldiers were missing, 'presumably' captured by the MPLA.

SWAPO (South West African Peoples Organisation) have issued a statement denouncing South Africa's armed incursion into Angola and SWAPO guerillas who are already engaged in an offensive against South African troops are linking up with the MPLA to join strength in the fight against both South African forces and the imperialist backed FNLA and Unita.

From Mozambique, President Samora Michel has sent a message of support to the MPLA expressing the support of his people for its struggle and saying: 'Angola is being attacked and invaded and we find the same weapons and the same interests that supported the war of colonial aggression directed once more against the Angolan people.'

Anti Apartheid News, 8 Charlotte Street, London W1 (01 580 5311).

SOLDIERS UNION MOVEMENT GROWS

France (PNS) - Following the formation of a soldiers union in Besancon, (See PNS 98), several other committees have sprung up in barracks around the country. Members have been holding press conferences emphasizing their demands.

Closer links have been established with local trade union branches particularly with the CFDT (Confederation Francaise des Travailleurs); the CGT (the communist controlled Confederation General des Travailleurs) and the PSU (Socialist Party - Parti Socialist Unifie) have also expressed their support. The organisation of the struggle amongst the soldiers is now growing despite the heavy repression inflicted by the government.

INTERNATIONAL SHORTS

BLOW FOR BLOW : 15 women workers in a small textile factory near Dieppe, North West France had been in occupation of the factory for a month when on November 26 a group of hired heavies stormed the works. They threw the women out during a night shift and one of the workers had to be taken to hospital. The next morning, a thousand people were demonstrating their support outside the factory and the women took the opportunity to go back into the factory to reoccupy it. They had originally been in occupation after a lock out following the sacking of two union representatives. Source: Liberation, 27 Rue de Lorraine, 75019, France.

INTERNATIONAL TRIBUNAL ON CRIMES AGAINST WOMEN : This tribunal will take place on March 6-8 in Brussels. The aim of the tribunal is to raise the consciousness of women everywhere by drawing attention to the crimes that are committed against women: rape, selling of women into prostitution, persecution of lesbians, clitoridectomy, forced sterilisation, unpaid housework, etc.

COMPENSATION PAID FOR SEXUAL DISCRIMINATION : Two women won \$67,300 from their employers as compensation for mental distress generated by sexual discrimination at work. It is hoped that the settlement, in a Los Angeles court, will constitute a precedent allowing women to claim thousands of dollars for emotional injury in cases of job discrimination.

BLACK JOURNALISTS SET UP COUNTER INFORMATION SERVICE : The Union of Black Journalists in South Africa has set up its own bulletin in an attempt to counter the monopolistic control exerted by the whites over the ideological apparatus which conditions the attitudes of South African blacks.

SPANISH REVOLUTIONARY TO BE EXTRADITED TO FACE DEATH : Pedro Astudillo, a member of the expatriate Spanish Resistance in France is in Fresnes prison in Paris awaiting extradition to Spain, where he will almost certainly face execution. Organisers of the campaign to prevent the extradition are asking sympathisers to write direct to President Giscard d'Estaing, Champs Elysees, Paris, to insist on him intervening personally in the matter. Source : Hapotec newsletter, PO Box 10638, Amsterdam, Netherlands.

US TROOPS TO STAY IN THAILAND : Despite an announcement last May (See PNS 92) that all US troops would withdraw from Thailand by March 1976, the Thai government has decided to allow 20,000 US military personnel to stay; the US will continue to use the Key Udon radar facilities and the gigantic air force base at Utapao, as well as to carry on training thousands of Thai troops in counter insurgency.

IMPORTANT ROLE OF WOMEN IN ANGOLAN STRUGGLE : OMA, (the women's wing of MPLA), has been receiving recruits faster than it can train them. Members of OMA are working as teachers, doctors, nurses, in logistics, and transport, in the preparation of clothing and in the military field as guerrillas.

MEXICAN DEMONSTRATION : 200,000 workers filled the major avenue of Mexico City on November 15 in a march condemning union leadership and calling for the democratic unity of all trade unions. It was the biggest demonstration of the working class in over a decade in Mexico and was organised by a rank and file movement within the SUTERM (The Union of Electrical Workers). The march condemned the collaboration of their union leaders with multi-national corporations and demanded agrarian reform. Organisers said the march was also to pay homage to those who were massacred at Tlatelolco in 1968 (when 1,000 demonstrators were shot by the paramilitary police) and to the 15 students who were killed in Mexico City and Monterrey in June 1971. Peoples Translation Service, 1735 Allston Way, Berkeley, California, US.

ALL STAR BILL FOR SANCTIONS BUSTING FILM : British actors Christopher 'Dracula' Lee, Trevor Howard and James Faulkner arrived in Rhodesia recently to film a propaganda movie for the Smith regime. The film is called 'Whispering Death' and according to the Rhodesian press, is a tale of 'brutality and murder by terrorists and a man's vengeful pursuit'. 'Whispering Death' is a sanctions breaking coup which is being financed to the tune of £300,000 by a West German company, Lard Films of Munich. Anti Apartheid News.